proposals of Rs. 1272 crores were received, 117 applications with a total loan amount of Rs. 393 crores were sanctioned and Rs. 335 crores has been disbursed against 99 applications.

Besides, the amount spent by Government, during last five years, in Rajasthan includes Rs. 117 lakhs for upgradation of Powerloom Service Centres, Rs. 27 lakhs for Computer Aided Design Centre and Rs. 223 lakhs for setting up/upgradation of textile testing laboratories. Government has also released Rs. 187 lakhs for Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) located in Rajasthan, Rs. 544 lakhs for wool development projects and Rs. 790 lakhs for development of handloom sector in Rajasthan.

(b) Government has taken several steps to promote the garments sector in Rajasthan. These include:

(i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI Sector. It has also announced the dereservation of knitted segment in the Budget 2002-03.

(ii) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.

(iii) Technology Mission for Cotton has been launched for initiating focussed steps for boosting production, productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products.

(iv) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional customs duty.

Market access for Textiles in the US

1157. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sought a greater market access for our textile products in the United States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the US Government thereto; and

(c) whether similar negotiations are also being held with the European Union, Brussels and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Government has been raising the issue of meaningful integration including enhanced quotas at various fora including at bilateral levels. US and EU have not extended any specific concessions to India so far.

Removal of export quota For textiles

1158. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally decided to remove export quota for textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that India's textiles industry which is a major source of foreign exchange would face survival threats with the removal of export quota; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Till December 31, 1994, the exports of textiles to certain developed countries (*e.g.* US; member countries of EU; Canada) has been governed by bilateral textile agreements entered into between India and these countries under the aegis of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), outside the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). With effect from January 1, 1995, the quantitative restrictions (import quotas) in the bilateral agreements under the MFA, are being governed by the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT. Presently, our textiles and clothing items face restraints in USA, European Union and Canada.

As per ATC, the textile quotas would be phased out and textile sector fully integrated by 1st January, 2005.